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(b) (3)-50 USC 403
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(b) (3)-18 USC 798

Memorandum For The Record

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In response to requests for coordination and technical assistance concerning the shoot-down of a U.S. A-37 aircraft in American USSR near Goriyan, 2 September, [REDACTED] CEMS-44, attended two meetings at the State Department, 31 October and 13 November.

The first meeting was held in the office of the Director of Special Projects, Mr. Polyzotov, to consider the difference between [REDACTED] transcripts of the C-130 shoot-down. In a review of the transcripts, this writer played a tape recording of the incident for a group of State Department officials and language experts, paying particular attention to the areas of uncertainty or disagreement. Although the results of this meeting were not officially discussed, two sanitized versions of the NSA transcript were requested and prepared for possible release to the Russian government. According to Mr. Marvel, Deputy Director of Special Projects, the following people were present at this meeting:

Mr. G. Frederick Feltnerit, State Department Counselor
Ambassador Hugh S. Cumings, Jr., Director of Intelligence and Research
Mr. R. Gordon Arison, Deputy Director of Intelligence and Research
Mr. William Wallace, Staff Assistance to Director of Intelligence and Research
Mr. Richard Service, Office of Eastern European Affairs
Mr. Edward L. Freers, Director of Eastern European Affairs
Mr. David Harry, Chief, Division of Records for USSR and Eastern Europe, (Office of Intelligence, Research, and Analysis)
Mr. Polyzotov, Director of Special Projects Staff
Mr. Marvel, Deputy Director of Special Projects Staff
Mr. Carl, Special Projects Staff
Mr. Buckert, Special Projects Staff
Mr. Leslie H. Brown, Special Projects Staff
Mr. Trevor J. Morrison, Special Projects Staff

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The meeting of 13 November was called by Deputy Undersecretary of State Robert Murphy to present NSA sanitized transcripts of the shoot-down to Russian Ambassador Mikhail Nachikov. It was also intended to play a recording of the intercept for the attending Russian representatives in an attempt to verify U.S. knowledge of the shoot-down. Mr. Nachikov, however, refused to become involved in technical discussion or to hear any reproduction of information which would be

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contrary to the Soviet denial of a shoot-down without proper authorization from the Soviet government. The Russian Ambassador stated that he would convey the transcripts to his government along with any statement the State Department wished to make. To the knowledge of this writer, who was present for all but the introductions and first few minutes of the meeting, the State Department gave him no official written statement. Mr. Murphy, in an attempt to persuade Mr. Menshikov to listen to the recording, suggested the similarities of the transcripts of the shoot-down and an article which appeared in the Russian newspaper, "Sovetskaya Aviatsiya," 19 September. Since Mr. Menshikov did not acknowledge an awareness of the article, Mr. Murphy read aloud an NSA translation and gave him a photostatic copy of the newspaper to forward to his government with the transcripts of the shoot-down. At the close of the discussion, Mr. Murphy suggested that after consultation with his government the Russian Ambassador return to listen to the recording; Mr. Menshikov said that with proper authorization he would. An unofficial list of the people present at this meeting is as follows:

The Honorable Robert Murphy, Deputy Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs
Mr. Mikhail Menshikov, Russian Ambassador to the U.S.
Major General Walsh, Ass't Chief of Staff for Intelligence, USAF
Major General Kosticuk, Senior Russian Air Attaché
Mr. Kehler, Deputy Ass't Secretary, Bureau of European Affairs
Mr. Richard Service, Office of Eastern European Affairs
Mr. Menshikov's secretary (male)

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